

PATENT COOPERATION TREA



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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

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Applicant's or agent's file reference	T	. See Notifi	cation of Transmittal of Internat		
P-7105 01	FOR FURTHER ACTION	Preliminary	Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/		
International application No. PCT/CH2003/000373	International filing date (day 12 June 2003 (12.0		Priority date (day/month/year) 13 June 2002 (13.06.2002)		
International Patent Classification (IPC) or n B29C 53/36, B31D 1/02	national classification and IPC	,			
Applicant	TEXTILMA A	AG			
and is transmitted to the applicant a 2. This REPORT consists of a total of	sheets, include	ding this cover	national Preliminary Examining Authorisheet.		
amended and are the basis for 70.16 and Section 607 of the	or this report and/or sheets come Administrative Instructions u	taining rectificander the PCT).	ations made before this Authority (see		
3. This report contains indications rela	ating to the following items:				
I Basis of the report					
II Priority					
III Non-establishment	of opinion with regard to nove	elty, inventive s	tep and industrial applicability		
IV Lack of unity of in					
V Reasoned statemen citations and explan	at under Article 35(2) with regar nations supporting such statem	ard to novelty, in ent	nventive step or industrial applicability;		
VI Certain documents	VI Certain documents cited				
VII Certain defects in t	the international application				
VIII Certain observation	ns on the international applicat	ion			
Date of submission of the demand	Date	e of completion	of this report		
21 November 2003 (21.	11.2003)	16	March 2004 (16.03.2004)		
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Aut	horized officer			
Facsimile No.	Tel	ephone No.			



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Inter-conal application No.

PCT/CH2003/000373

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3.	the international the internat	ational application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this form, ments were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language a language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (a language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)) a language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international pressor, and to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the ary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing: Intained in the international application in written form. The defence of the sequently to this Authority in written form. The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing ternational application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is seen furnished.	ge of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). Ige of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). Ige of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/ any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international mination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing: in the international application in written form. ther with the international application in computer readable form. subsequently to this Authority in written form. subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. ement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the mal application as filed has been furnished. ment that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has nished.					
5.	Ti be	the description, pages	o an invitation under Article 14 are referred to					
*	and 70	report as originally fisca and another must be referred to under item lacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item l						

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v.	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement							
1.	Statement							
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-7	YES				
		Claims		NO NO				
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-7	YES				
		Claims		NO				
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-7	YES				
		Claims		NO				

2. Citations and explanations

- 1. US3184874 (D1) is considered to represent the closest prior art in relation to the subject matter of claims 1 and 3.
- 1.1 D1 discloses (the references in parentheses are to this document) a process for folding a length of textile strip, in particular a length of a label strip, wherein the length of strip (21) is first fed to a supporting member (26), heated in the area that is to be folded, then folded and finally fixed in folded state under the application of pressure and heat.

The subject matter of claim 1 therefore differs from the known process in that the posterior face of the folding area is heated.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

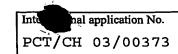
1.2 D1 discloses (the references in parentheses are to this document) an arrangement having a heating device (40) situated in front of a folding device to heat the folding area of the length of strip (21).

The subject matter of claim 3 therefore differs from the known arrangement in that the heating device (40) acts on the posterior face of the length of strip.

The subject matter of claim 3 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

- 1.3 The heating device described in D1 acts on the anterior face, that is, on the viewing side of the length of strip, which can lead to shiny areas on the viewing side of the length of strip.
- 1.4 Proceeding from the process and the arrangement described in D1, the problem addressed may be considered that of reducing the risk inherent therein that shiny areas may be produced on the viewing side of the length of strip during folding.
- 1.5 The proposed solution is neither known from nor suggested by the available prior art. Consequently, the solution described in claims 1 and 3 involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).
- 1.6 Dependent claims 2 and 4-7 pertain to developments of independent claims 1 and 3 and therefore likewise meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1).
- 2. The embodiment described on page 3, lines 21-22, and claimed in claim 6, according to which the retaining member, not the supporting member, is fitted with a heating device, falls outside the scope of the present independent claims because the heating device acts in this case on the anterior, not the

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posterior, face of the length of strip. This inconsistency between the claims and the description leads to doubt concerning the subject matter for which protection is sought and the claims are consequently unclear (PCT Article 6).